addresses of the Directors and office-bearers of such concerns ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c) The enquiries are still going on.

Setting up of a High Technology Corporation for the LCA

1277. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a separate High Technology Corporation to develop and manufacture Mission Management Computer for the LCA Programme in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when this Corporation would be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Mission Management for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) is one of several complex subsystems of the LCA to be developed indigenously. The nature of the innovative tasks that need to be performed is such that their realisation in the most cost and time-effective manner requires innovations in organisation and administrative facilitation. The possibility of providing these within the format of a "Company" structure is being explored.

Progress of Subarnarekha Barrage Project

1278. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was an inter-State agreement among three State Governments, namely, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal for Subarnarekha Barrage Project with the World Bank assistance in the year 1978;

(b) if so, the progress of implementation;

(c) the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the estimated time over-run and cost escalation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There is a tripartite agreement among Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal which provides *inter-alia* for construction of a barrage across the Subernarekha in West Bengal.

(b) to (d) Subernarekha Barrage Project originally received in June, 1981 from the Government of West Bengal was considered by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission in March, 1984. The project proposal was not cleared as the scheme did not provide for flood protection to the command area. An updated estimate amounting to Rs. 230 crores including provision for protection of command area from floods has been received in August, 1987.

Supply of Ammunition for 105MM Gun by a private concern

1279. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had placed orders with M/s. Bharat Engineering Works of Bombay, a private concern to manufacture ammunition for 105mm guns;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the ammunition supplied by the said company was not upto the standard;

(c) whether a C.B.I. inquiry was ordered into the matter; and

(d) if so, what follow-up action has since been taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) An order for supply of ammunition shell bodies (empty) for 105mm gun was placed on M/s. Bharat Engineering Works, Bombay.

(b) The shell bodies (empty) supplied by the firm did not conform to technical parameters of the drawing.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) On the basis of the investigations, the C.B.I. have decided to prosecute the guilty officer and the representative of the firm in the competent court.

Scheme for Compulsory Military Training

1280. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to start a scheme of compulsory military training for eligible youths in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Introduction of compulsory Military Training would not be in keeping with the democratic ethos of our country. Moreover, the benefits accruing therefrom are not likely to be commensurate with the very large expenditure involved.

Theft of Radio Active Pencil from BARC

1281. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 16th September, 1987, to the effect that radioactive pencil has been stolen from Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay.

(b) if so. whether any inquiry has since been conducted; and

(c) what has been the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Theft of radioactive pencil took place from Behala Industries Complex, Calcutta and not from BARC, Bombay.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) After investigations, the pencil was recovered from a nearby pond on the morning of 16-9-1987 and is presently in safe custody. The lead pot used for storing the pencil was recovered from a scrap dealer.

Cost Escalation of Narmada Sagar Project

1282. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Narmada Sagar Project has escalated to Rs. 2,400 crores as against the initial estimates of Rs. 1,400 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to appoint a high power committee to inquire into the high increase in the cost of construction of the Dam and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS NIRDHA) : (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have not submitted any revised estimate of the Narmada Sagar Project.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scrapping of manufacturing plan of Dornier Aircraft

1283. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appared in the Hindustan Times dated the 15th September, 1987 to the effect that the Plan to manufacture Dornier, a light Transport aircraft at the Kanpur Unit of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. is likely to be scrapped midway;